

the species from S.E. Australia are very poorly represented in the British Museum, and will probably prove to be more numerous than is indicated in this paper.

*Tachytes* (?) *nigrripes*, Sauss.

*Larrada nigrripes*, Sauss. Reise d. 'Novara,' Zool. ii., Hymen. p. 74 (1867). ♀.

Schulz (Zool. Ann. p. 191, 1911) described the specimen now bearing the type-label in Saussure's collection. It is, however, a male, and has a head, whereas Saussure describes his species as female and implies that the type is headless. Schulz considers the generic position as intermediate between *Tachytes* and *Notogonia*, but nearest to the former. The locality given by Saussure is Tasmania, but the localities of the 'Novara' are most unreliable, and the species may not be Australian.

*Tachytes australis*, Sauss. (Reise d. 'Novara,' Zool. ii., Hymen. p. 69, 1867, ♂), is doubtless a *Tachysphex*; and *T. femoratus*, Sauss., and *T. australis*, Sauss. (1854, nec 1867), belong respectively to *Larra* and *Notogonia*.

*Tachytes tarsatus*, Sm., an Indian species, was recorded by me as Australian (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 348, 1910) owing to an error in identification; in the same paper I also included *T. australis*, Sauss. (1867), as a *Tachytes*.

XXXIII.—On a new Species of *Solpuga* from the Belgian Congo. By STANLEY HIRST.

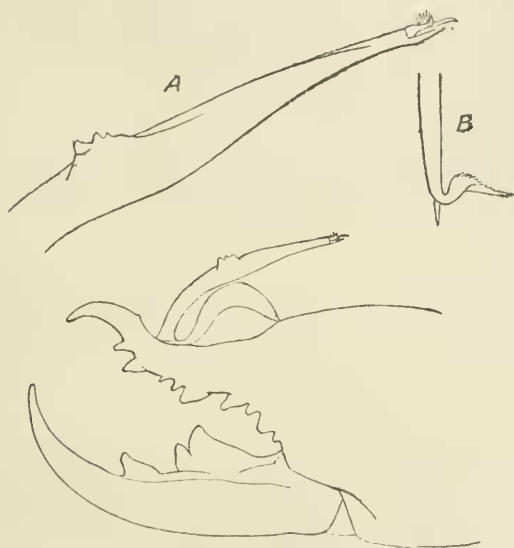
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*Solpuga hewitti*, sp. n.

♂.—*Chelicera*. Basal enlargement of flagellum rather high and shaped like an ear. Free portion of flagellum short, being much less than half the length of the chelicera; it arises above the second tooth, and at first is fairly wide and flattened dorso-ventrally; towards the middle of its length, however, it is rotated sideways, becoming higher than wide, and is furnished with a short little keel crowned with denticles; distal end of flagellum slender and bifurcated, consisting of a sharp little spine and a minute soft twisted

structure, which is shaped rather like a sickle and clothed with short hairs. Immovable finger of chelicera with the end strongly curved; the first two teeth are large, and there are two little intermediate teeth between them and the next large tooth; there is a very minute denticle on the upper surface of this finger in front of the flagellum. Movable finger with a single minor tooth between the principal ones. Width of *head-plate* considerably less than length of tibia of palp, but almost equal to that of the metatarsus.

♀.—Width of *head-plate* very slightly exceeding length



Chelicera of *Solpuga hewitti*.

A and B, distal half and extreme end of flagellum, greatly enlarged.

of tibia of palp, but a little less than the length of its metatarsus + tarsus. Armature of chelicera practically the same as in the male sex.

The female (type) of *S. butleri*, Poc., from the Congo, is a very large specimen, the length of its body being about 52 mm.; the width of its head-plate is considerably less than the length of the tibia of the palp or than the metatarsus + tarsus.

*Colour.* Head-plate pale brownish or reddish yellow; apparently it is not nearly so deeply infuscate as in *S. butleri*. Chelicera yellowish at the sides, but darker above. Abdominal tergites rather dark brown, but the rest of the abdomen

is yellowish with the exception of a narrow dark strip immediately bordering the tergites. Palp and legs yellowish; they are slightly darker in the male than in the female, however; malleoli pale and seemingly without any dark rim.

[*Note*.—There are two more female specimens of *Solpuga* from Kapiri which resemble those described above very closely in structure, but are very much darker, the dorsal surface of the chelicerae, head-plate, and abdomen being very deeply infuscate. The palpi and legs also are rather dark brown in these specimens. Probably they are the female of another species.]

*Measurements in mm.*—♂. Length of body 31; width of head-plate 8·5; length of tibia of palp 10·8, of metatarsus + tarsus of palp 11·25.

♀. Length of body 32·5; width of head-plate 9; length of tibia of palp 8·75, of metatarsus + tarsus of palp 9·75.

*Loc.* Kapiri, Belgian Congo; a male and a female collected by L. Charliers (10–13. xi. 1913).

XXXIV.—*On a new Variety of European Tick* (*Derma-centor reticulatus*, var. *aulicus*, var. *nov.*). By STANLEY HIRST.

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♂.—Colour-markings on dorsum very similar to those of the typical form; the posterior pale linear markings are rather fine. Cornua of capitulum distinctly shorter than in typical form. Trochanter of first leg with the angular projection rather short, wide, and blunt. Second segment of palp practically without any spine dorsally. Stigmata rather wide comma-shaped, closely resembling those of the typical form.

♀.—Second segment of palp without any spine dorsally. Angular projection of first trochanter short and wide.

*Measurements in mm.*—♂. Length of scutum 3·6–5·4; width of scutum 2·6–3·8.

♀. Length of body 5·6, of scutum 1·5; width of scutum 1·65.

*Material.* Three males and three females from the skin of a wild boar, killed in France (exact locality not known). A female specimen from Valescure, France, 2. iv. 1910; host not given (*N. C. Rothschild's Coll.*).

This new variety will be described in greater detail and figured in a later paper on parasitic Acari.